

Hold the Line for Democracy and Sane Legislation

To the Voters of Missouri:

On the 5th of November, the civilian voters of the State will be called upon to adopt or reject a proposed constitutional amendment providing for the prohibition of the "manufacture, sale and giving away of intoxicating liquors" known as proposed Amendment No. 6.

An analysis of what this question means to the people of Missouri should be carefully considered by every voter before he casts his ballot.

Some Reasons Why Prohibition Should Be Defeated

¶ The amendment is undemocratic, and, as such, un-American, and constitutes a serious invasion of the Bill of Rights of the citizens of Missouri.

¶ It strikes down the principles of individual liberty and self-determination upon which American democracy was founded, and substitutes State control of individual habits for self-control, which develops individual character.

¶ It is insincere as a prohibition measure for the reason that it excepts liquors for "medicinal, mechanical and scientific purposes," which, as shown in other states, opens the door wide for the use of liquors to almost any extent.

¶ It is destructive and not constructive in its operation, for the reason that it involves the ruin of several hundred million dollars' worth of property and the business and livelihood of thousands of citizens, and entails the loss of immense revenues to the State and municipalities without providing any compensation for such destruction of property, business and livelihood or any plan for raising the revenue that will be needed to replace the revenue destroyed.

¶ All European nations except Russia have declared against prohibition, and have regulated the liquor industry in accordance with the report of commissions appointed to study the subject.

¶ The British Liquor Control Board have declared against prohibition and in favor of liquor regulation.

¶ By wise legislation, Sweden, Norway and Denmark have, in the course of a generation or two, brought about model conditions with respect to the sale and use of beverages containing alcohol.

¶ Proposed prohibition in our country is not founded on the report or investigations of any competent commission, but is an extreme propaganda, the consequences of which cannot be foreseen.

¶ The adoption of the proposed amendment may lead to the ratification by the Legislature of the State of Missouri of the prohibition amendment to the Federal Constitution. If the voters of the State

wish to prevent the imposition of the tyranny of prohibition on the Nation they should, on November 5th next, declare themselves emphatically against prohibition in Missouri.

¶ Prohibition, both State and National, will mean the wholesale adoption of illicit distilling and home brewing, and, as stated by the Internal Revenue Commissioner, will require an army of deputies for its enforcement. The rights and privacy of the home would thereby undoubtedly be totally sacrificed.

¶ LET THE BOYS DECIDE WHEN THEY COME HOME.

¶ Will we make Missouri safe for democracy if we attempt to abridge the liberties or change by law the habits of thousands of our people without giving one hundred thousand Missourians in France (one-seventh of our voters) a voice in the matter?

¶ Is it wise to destroy vast property and business interests in the midst of war and bring about changes in a political, social and financial way, the end of which no one can foretell?

¶ The revenue collected in the State of Missouri from the brewing and dramshop business for State purposes amounts to something over \$1,500,000.00, and for municipal and county purposes, over \$2,000,000.00.

¶ The National revenue derived from beer, wines and spirituous liquors is approximately \$500,000,000.00 per annum, which, under the proposed new Revenue Law, it is estimated will reach more than One Billion Dollars per year.

¶ If Prohibition is enacted, new and increasingly heavy taxes will have to be assessed and borne by every citizen of the State and a much greater increase in the income, estate and other taxes will have to be paid by each citizen if revenues on alcoholic beverages are no longer available to the National Government.

¶ THE LOCAL OPTION LAWS OF MISSOURI, AS ENFORCED BY OUR HIGHEST COURTS, ARE MORE EFFECTIVE, LOGICAL AND FAIR THAN STATE-WIDE PROHIBITION CAN EVER BE.

Scratch ~~YES~~ On Amendment
Vote NO No. 6

Citizens' Committee